(iii) Media Compaigns through Electronic and print medium to create investor awareness and spread Financial Literacy amongst potential investors;

(c) Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) has been established under Section 205C of the Companies Act, 1956 by way of Companies (Amendment) Act, 1999 for promotion of investors awareness and protection of the interests of investors.

(d) and (e) The Ministry has taken the following steps to protect the small investors from being defrauded:—

(i) MCA-21, one-governance initiative, has been launched with a view to bring transparency and certainty in the delivery of services to the stakeholders and empower the investors by providing access to the public information about the companies.

(ii) A new concept of Director Identification Number has been introduced for existing or intending directors, which would help in establishing the identity of a Director and also help in correlating his participation in other corporate entities.

(iii) A website, namely *www.watchoutinvestorscom*, which is a national registry of economic defaulters and covers information on convictions by various regulatory bodies, has been created to help, free of cost, the investors to protect themselves from unscrupulous promoters, companies and entities.

(iv) An "Investor Helpline" *www. investorhelpline.in* project has also been launched under IEPF through Midas Touch Investors Association to provide a mechanism for redressal of grievances and to create investor awareness, free of cost.

Compliance of clause 49 of listing agreement

4302. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether compliance of Clause 49 of the listing agreement is mandatory for listed companies;

(b) if so, what is the status of the compliance as on date in BSE Group A and NSE Nifty companies;

(c) how many listed companies have committed offence of noncompliance of clause 49 and have been fined and their officers imprisoned after 2000; and

(d) how many companies are listed in BSE and NSE as on date along with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Securities and Exchance Board of India (SEBI) has informed that compliance with Clause 49 of the listing agreement, containing provisions relating to corporate governance, is mandatory for entities seeking listing for the first time, at the time of seeking in-principle approval for such listing and for existing listed entities having a paid up share capital of Rs. 3 crore and above or net worth of Rs. 25 crore or more at any time in the history of the company.

(b) BSE has informed that for the quarter ended March 31,2007, of the 204 companies in BSE Group A, all companies are compliant with Clause 49 except for 13 companies. NSE has informed that for the quarter ended March 31, 2007, of the 50 companies that comprise the NSE Nifty, all companies are complaint with Clause 49 except for 7 companies.

(c) According to SEBI, no listed company that has not complied with the provisions of clause 49 has been fined or their officers imprisoned after 2000.

(d) There are 4784 and 1250 companies listed on the BSE and NSE, respectively, as on May 10,2007. The names of the companies which are listed on BSE and NSE are available on their websites *http://bseindia.com* and *http://nseindia.com* respectively.

Amendment of Companies Act

4303. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to amend the Companies Act in a comprehensive way;

(b) whether Government are considering introducing one-person company and small company concept in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?